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# 4648

The Gray Family  
" of  
Deep River

by

J. R. Pegg  
"

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DEEP RIVER

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When I tell of the people who lived here  
In the yesterdays, I speak of a sturdy folk:  
They could fashion and fire the rifle, and yoke  
The powerful and patient oxen; when the year  
Was June they were tan reapers of wheat and rye.  
The women spun and wove, and from the wells  
Fetched water; kitchens were sweet with smells  
Of cress, and bacon, bread, and apple pie.

Yet their labor was not their life: they knew  
The joys of faith and beauty: the old were  
Honored and cared for; children loved and taught:  
About each dwelling pears and peaches grew,  
And herbs were found as odorous as myrrh,  
And lark and robin sang what God first thought!

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WILLIAM M. GRAY'S FAMILY

Children by Mary Jane Brown Gray: John Wesley  
Gray, Elias Gray, Laura Gray, Ellen Victoria  
Gray, and Mary J. Gray.

Children by Eucobia Brown Payne Gray: Charles  
Henry Gray, Edgar Thomas Gray, Sarah Gray,  
and Ada Gray.

Rev. Aug. 25-1980



## THE FOREWORD

Last summer I gave in Pamphlet form a record of the history and settlement of the Deep River section of Guilford County, North Carolina. This was in connection with the story of the Pegg Family. In the present Booklet, I shall give the genealogy of another family on Deep River closely related to the Peggs by marriage and community affairs: namely, the Grays.

The Pamphlet on the Peggs should be read as background material for the family now under consideration. The geographical, political, and religious factors as related in the Pegg story remain generally true of the Grays. Therefore, I do not feel it worthwhile to repeat the background material. My hope is that these two Booklets may soon be printed under one cover.

I wish to express my deep appreciation to Mrs. Jesse H. Gray of Colfax, North Carolina. Mrs. Gray has explored in detail the early records of the Gray Family. Her work concerning the early generations of this family of Deep River has been of great help to me. All those who are interested in the history of the Gray Family in America, and especially in North Carolina, will find Mrs. Gray's work extremely helpful.

Also, I wish to thank Mrs. I. n. Dillon of Guilford, North Carolina, for her help in getting the records in my hands.

Jabez P. Pegg  
July 29, 1957  
New Bern, N. C.





## THE GRAY FAMILY OF DEEP RIVER

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The name Gray, or Grey, is quite common in the records of the English speaking peoples. The earliest mention of this family name in American life is linked with the first permanent English settlement in America: that at Jamestown in Virginia. During the period in the winter of 1609-10 that was known as the Starving Time, a record was made of those who died and those who survived. There were Grays in both the lists of the dead and the living.

During the War of the Revolution a number of Grays served in the Colonial forces. Their names and terms of service can be traced from the records.

Our chief concern at the present time is with the Grays of Deep River in Piedmont North Carolina. The Grants of land under Lord Granville were first made in this part of North Carolina about 1743. These land Grants were continued until North Carolina became a State at the time of the Revolution. The unsold lands of Granville were then confiscated by the State. A land Law was passed by the State in 1777. Each County was required to appoint a surveyor. He made the survey of claims and sent in two plots to the Secretary of State. In 1780 the sale price of land in North Carolina was set at seven and one-half cents per acre. In 1794 the price was raised to twelve and one-half cents per acre.

On December 16, 1768 we find William Gray securing through purchase a tract of 640 acres from Cyrus Pegg of Deep River. This land sale gives us the earliest record of the names of Gray and Pegg on Deep River.

Generations later there would be a marriage between these two Families--Ellen Victoria Gray and Jabez G. Pegg. The Gray homestead was not far from Colfax, and the Pegg plantation some ten miles away at Sandy Ridge.





It appears that William Gray I came into North Carolina from Virginia as early as 1735. I shall now give the lineal descendants of William Gray I down to the present time--July 29, 1957.

WILLIAM GRAY I. Nine children: James, William II, Isaac, Jesse, Joseph, Thomas, Samuel, Elizabeth Gray Roper, Lydia Gray Minor.

SAMUEL GRAY. Seven children: Squire Gray was born on Deep River about 1798, and died in March 1880. His mother was named Nancy. Nancy was living on Deep River at the time of the Battle of Guilford Courthouse. This battle took place in March 1781. She was still living at the time of the Falling of the Stars on March 13, 1833. The first Cemetery for these pioneer Grays is located on the original tract of land that William Gray I bought from Cyrus Pegg. The McCollum Family--close relatives of the Grays--now own this land which has the old Cemetery on it. Later the Grays used the Quaker Cemetery at Dover for burial. When Dover was abandoned, burial was begun in the Shady Grove Church yard at Colfax. This continues at the present time.

William Gray III, Ithamer Gray, Jesse Gray, Nathan Gray, Bettie Gray, Sally Gray.

SQUIRE GRAY. He was first married to Charlotte Thomas of Randolph County in North Carolina on or about 1825. He married Caroline Ausment after the death of his first wife--Charlotte. The six children were all from the first marriage:

William M. Gray married Mary Jane Brown. Jesse Gray married Martitia Beeson. Samuel Gray married Elizabeth Pitts. They moved to Indiana. Lovenia Gray married Frank Payne. Linda Gray married a McCollum. Nancy Gray married Joseph Farrington.

From now on, my records follows only the line of William M. Gray. Mrs. Jesse H. Gray has the records for the brothers and sisters of William M. Gray.

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WILLIAM M. GRAY. He was born November 3, 1826, and died April 14, 1914. He was the oldest son of Squire Gray, and was the administrator of Squire Gray's estate. The settlement was made in 1879-80. William M. Gray was married to Mary Jane Brown. She was born May 18, 1831. and died August 24, 1867. William M. Gray's plantation consisted of some 600 acres near Colfax on the headwaters of Deep River. The plantation was generally worked by eight or nine tenant families. Beekeeping, hunting, and fishing were William M. Gray's delight when not actively supervising the work of the tenants. Five children were born to William M. Gray and Mary Jane Brown Gray:

John Wesley Gray. He was born January 8, 1857, and died July 19, 1928. He married Cornelia Victoria Atkins of Sedge Garden on February 25, 1880. Cornelia Victoria Atkins was born April 9, 1862, and died December 28, 1914. John Wesley Gray and Cornelia Atkins Gray settled on a farm midway between Colfax and Friendship. In addition to his farming he ran a general store for many years.

My visits to my Uncle Wesley's home were always happy occasions in my childhood. Candy from the store, and cake and pie from Aunt Vick's kitchen, made a holiday of a visit. Then there were the trains and automobiles! The Southern Railway runs through a deep cut a little ways in front of the house. The puffing, roaring, and the whistle! Too the main highway from Greensboro to Winston-Salem was just beyond the yard. Here in the early years of this century, the Automobile was making its appearance. I watched the birth of the new world from my Uncle's porch.

John Wesley Gray had traveled as far West as Utah. He knew most of the people from Kernersville to Greensboro. He always had interesting things to tell that fired a boy's imagination.

The children:





Sarah Nevada Gray. She was born on June 18, 1881, She married Alvis Carl Shaw December 31, 1901. The children:

Guilford Gray Shaw. He was born September 24, 1902, and died June 14, 1936. He was married to Neva Elizabeth Swinburne June 29, 1929. One child: Carolyn Gray Shaw. She was born May 20, 1930. Carolyn Gray married Herbert C. Bocook on July 15, 1950.

Guilford and I had a fight one day at Uncle Wesley Gray's. There were only a few weeks difference in our ages. Uncle Wesley and my father watched from the ringside with keen concern. When it was over they took us into the store and weighed us in. Guilford weighed 51 pounds and I weighed 50. I suppose this is the only case on record where the contestants were weighed after the fight, and not before.

Sallie Mildred Shaw. She was born February 4, 1905. She married Adolph Marion Howell on August 19, 1926. The children: Sarah Mildred was born June 19, 1928. She married William Alan Scholar on December 26, 1947. The children: William Alan Scholar II was born February 23, 1950. David Gray Scholar was born December 1, 1954. Alvis Marion Howell was born July 20, 1931. He married Nettie Jo Brewer on May 23, 1953. One child: Joseph Shaw Howell was born February 9, 1954.

Alvis Yancey Shaw. He was born July 31, 1907. He married Bernice Flanigan on May 28, 1954.

Robert Taylor Shaw. He was born on January 24, 1910. He married Wilhelmina Robinson on December 31, 1936. The Children: Sandra Lee Shaw was born March 25, 1939. Roberta Ann Shaw was born August 26, 1944. Martha Ellen Shaw was born November 27, 1946. Robert Taylor Shaw was born August 17, 1954.

James Cornelius Shaw. He was born February 6, 1915. He Married Pearl Loveless on February 4, 1954. One child: Carlene Rebecca was born May 13, 1956.

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Bertha Lenora Gray. She was born October 23, 1884, and died June 23, 1885.

Eva Victoria Gray. She was born September 27, 1887, and died April 9, 1888.

Hattie Lake Gray. She was born December 23, 1891. She married Charles Franklin Snow. He was born February 21, 1889, and died April 24, 1935. Four children: Florence Cornelia Snow. She was born October 4, 1916, and married Isaac Cody Adams. He was born December 26, 1916, and died November 5, 1950 in the Fayetteville Veterans Hospital. He was wounded in the Battle of the Bulge in World War II. Four children: Jane Cornelia Adams was born January 27, 1944. Amy Snow Adams was born April 10, 1947. Emily Gray Adams was born March 9, 1948. Sarah Ellen Adams was born January 18, 1950.

Hattie Theresa Snow. She was born February 11, 1918. She married James Marvin Edwards. One child: Nancy Theresa Edwards was born July 26, 1955.

Charles Franklin Snow, Jr. He was born August 25, 1919. He married Virginia Wilson Warren. Three Children: Charles Franklin Snow III. He was born February 21, 1951. Dwight Wesley Snow. He was born February 21, 1954. Warren Wilson Snow was born June 11, 1957.

John Wesley Snow. He was born September 18, 1920, and died June 11, 1921.

Cornelia Victoria Gray died on December 28, 1914. John Wesley Gray later married Flora A. Doub.

The first Automobile that Mother and I ever rode in was driven by Charles F. Snow. He and Lake came home one Sunday. Other members of the family were away from home. We took a ride with the courting couple: that is, we rode up beyond the orchard & walked back.





Elias Gray. He was born April 10, 1859, and died April 3, 1874.

Laura Gray. She was born October 27, 1861. She married Stephen A. Long on September 9, 1884. They settled in Douglass, Kansas. One child: Martha Jane Long was born December 6, 1888. Laura Gray Long died January 15, 1942. Stephen A. Long died November 21, 1943.

Ellen Victoria Gray. She was born July 24, 1864. She married Jabez G. Pegg on January 12, 1888. Jabez G. Pegg died May 20, 1941. Ellen V. Pegg died November 15, 1951.

Nothing is lost to us!  
Nothing that man has made,  
Or dreamed,  
Passes utterly.  
Nothing that the eye saw,  
Or seemed to see,  
Is vanished eternally.  
Nothing that the ear heard,  
Or imagined it heard,  
Is lost overlastingly.  
Nothing the heart felt,  
Or deemed it felt,  
Is perished finally.

The hand touches something again,  
And the dream returns.  
The eye beholds again,  
And the past parades before us.  
The ear hears again,  
And the music of lost lips echoes.  
The heart feels again,  
And the absent live in our love  
As they have always lived!  
Nothing is lost to us!

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The children: Eight in Number:

Herbert Dale Pegg. He was born May 11, 1889. He married Mayme Katherine Carter on September 8, 1923.

Mary Elizabeth Pegg. She was born July 27, 1891, She married Ivy R. Dillon. Two children: Donald Pegg Dillon was born on January 17, 1918. He married Charlotte Atkins on November 25, 1939. Two children: Donald Dillon, Jr., was born May 16, 1942. Diane Dillon was born August 31, 1952. James R. Dillon was born November 15, 1919. He married Dorothy Greendman. One child: James R. Dillon, Jr.

William Wesley Pegg, Sr. He was born January 16, 1894. He married Annie Lee Pegg on June 5, 1921. The children: Herbert Mark Pegg was born January 23, 1923. He married Arlene Davenport. The children: Herbert Wayne Pegg was born January 21, 1947. Martin Dale Pegg was born on September 9, 1952. Esther Victoria Pegg was born July 31, 1924. She married Clinton E. Parker. The children: David Furman Parker was born October 17, 1947. Karen Victoria Parker was born August 13, 1950. Clinton Wesley Parker was born August 7, 1951. Patty Sue Pegg was born July 13, 1926. She married James M. Murphy, Jr. One Child: Jerry Allen Murphy was born November 1, 1948. William Wesley Pegg, Jr. He was born October 22, 1928. He married Janet Robbins. Lee Gardner Pegg. He was born June 5, 1930. Mary Ellen Pegg. She was born January 30, 1933. She married R. P. Julian.

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I like to recall the names of the lovely places  
I knew too long ago:  
For then I remember the faces  
That make them so!

---

Now April sings through the robin's heart,  
But the song still leaves us miles apart.

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Nellie Gray Pegg. She was born September 23, 1896. She married Ben J. Idol on December 21, 1919. Two children: Paige Idol was born June 17, 1922. She married Emory Foster Weavil on August 12, 1940. A son: Bonny Foster Idol was born April 4, 1942. Ruth Gray Idol was born September 24, 1931. She married Jack Wiley Money on December 12, 1954.

Vauda Irene Pegg. She was born May 10, 1899. She married William D. Shields on December 24, 1921. Three children: William David Shields, Jr., was born May 2, 1925. He married Mary Ruth Stanley on July 25, 1947. Two children: David Stanley was born July 29, 1948. Mary Kathryn was born May 21, 1953. Kathryn Dale Shields was born July 2, 1931. She married Nelson Rivers on June 11, 1954. Nancy Jane Shields was born March 11, 1945.

Jabez Paul Pegg. He was born July 18, 1902. He married Ella Lillian Edwards on April 16, 1927. Four children: Sarah Edwards Pegg was born February 6, 1928. She married James Hubert Gibson on May 4, 1947. Three children: Mildred Lillian Gibson was born September 11, 1948. James Hubert Gibson, Jr., was born June 17, 1953. Sarah Karen Gibson was born October 28, 1956. Paula Ann Pegg was born June 13, 1931. She married William John Schwelm on June 11, 1955. One child: Carol Ann Schwelm. Jabez Gilbert Pegg was born on August 13, 1934. Wilbur Leon Pegg was born July 13, 1941, and died January 6, 1948.

Carl Hamilton Pegg. He was born April 13, 1905. He married Eleanor Cunningham Smith on July 1, 1933. One child: Elizabeth Gregory Pegg was born April 10, 1938. She married Charles Richard Staton on September 20, 1956.

Fred Grant Pegg. Was born October 5, 1907. He married Pauline Sink on July 4, 1936. One child: Carolyn Sink Pegg. She was born i 1927





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Mary J. Gray. She was born May 7, 1867, and died August 13, 1946. She was married to Julius M. Snow. He was born December 25, 1856, and died January 13, 1929. Their farm was not far from Kernersville. Visits were often made there in my childhood. They were always happy occasions.

The children:

Lillie M. Snow was born March 5, 1887, and died March 10, 1950. She married John W. Corum November 16, 1904. The children: Menerva Corum was born August 1, 1905, and died March 3, 1907. Clarence Odell Corum was born September 9, 1909. He married Nettie Smith. One child; John Willis Corum was born January 2, 1946. Orma Lee Corum was born April 28, 1914. He married Lucile L. Wyatt. Ralph Gray Corum was born January 31, 1921. He married Helen Parrott. One child; Connie Lee was born July 13, 1947.

Carrie V. Snow. She was born September 14, 1891. She married McCoy E. Modlin on March 1, 1916. The children; Doran M. Modlin was born February 4, 1917. He married Myrtle M. Eddinger on February 8, 1942. The children; Jane, Larry, Steve, Pamela. Mary Lee Modlin was born June 9, 1920. She married Richard H. Phillips on May 17, 1941. One child; Michel Sue was born April 19, 1942. Yvoone Pearle Modlin was born February 2, 1922. She married Raymond Meza on January 9, 1943. Maxine E. Modlin was born June 5, 1924. She married James D. Andrews on December 19, 1941. The children; James D. Andrews II was born October 31, 1942. Rodger D. Andrews was born June 30, 1945. Donald L. Andrews was born December 21, 1946. Pat A. Andrews was born January 23, 1948. Brenda G. Andrews was born January 3, 1950. Ricky L. Andrews was born December 27, 1952.

Aunt Mary's family is the largest of all the children of William M. Gray. This is true both of her own children, and her children's children.

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## NOTES

1. The first part of the paper is devoted to a discussion of the general principles of the theory of the structure of the crystal lattice. It is shown that the structure of the crystal lattice is determined by the nature of the forces acting between the atoms of the crystal.

2. In the second part of the paper, the author considers the question of the influence of the temperature on the structure of the crystal lattice. It is shown that the temperature has a significant influence on the structure of the crystal lattice, and that the structure of the crystal lattice changes with temperature.

3. In the third part of the paper, the author considers the question of the influence of the pressure on the structure of the crystal lattice. It is shown that the pressure has a significant influence on the structure of the crystal lattice, and that the structure of the crystal lattice changes with pressure.

4. In the fourth part of the paper, the author considers the question of the influence of the composition of the crystal lattice on its structure. It is shown that the composition of the crystal lattice has a significant influence on its structure, and that the structure of the crystal lattice changes with composition.



Melvia E. Snow was born January 16, 1893. She married Albert H. Marion on July 6, 1918. One child: Albert H. Marion, Jr. He was born April 10, 1919. He married Dorothy L. Hendrix on November 28, 1936. The children: Betty C.--born April 20, 1938. She married Robert L. Jordan on August 8, 1953. The children: Robert L. Jr. was born February 10, 1955. David K.--was born April 2, 1957. Nancy L. Marion was born January 26, 1940. She married Donald G. Merritt on June 2, 1956. One child: Donald G. Jr.--born January 22, 1957. Wanda F. Marion was born March 6, 1949. Rodger W. Marion was born May 17, 1954.

J. Gurney Snow was born October 7, 1895. He married Hazel Kiger on March 6, 1938. Four children: Kenneth--born December 25, 1938. Eugene--born July 9, 1940. Mary J.--born August 28, 1946. Wayne--born August 19, 1952.

E. Sue Snow was born January 31, 1897, and died May 29, 1927.

Berthia V. Snow was born February 14, 1899.

Cleste Snow was born April 21, 1902.

Clarnece Snow was born October 19, 1904. He married Berthia Pegram on May 17, 1926.

John W. Snow was born April 27, 1906. He married Pauline Matthews in 1934. She died in June of 1957 at Norfolk, Virginia. The children: Ronnie D. Snow was born July 7, 1936. He married Sharron Blair on July 26, 1955. Wickie H. Snow was born December 8, 1942. George T. Snow was born May 6, 1949.

Rosa Snow was born June 19, 1908. She died on September 13, 1928.

Katherine Snow was born March 10, 1910. She married William S. Kiger on August 29, 1929. The children: William G. Kiger was born October 29, 1930. Charles E. Kiger was born May 19, 1933. He married Betty J. Idol on August 8, 1953. Peggy J. Kiger was born May 21, 1937. She married Harold E. Bennett on December 19, 1953. One child: Gary E. Bennett was born October 19, 1954.

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William M. Gray's wife, Mary Jane Brown, died August 24, 1867. He thne married Eucebia Brown Payne--a widow and sister of his first wife. Eucebia Brown Payne was born January 10, 1837, and died April 26, 1911 William M. Gray had four children by his second wife: Namely:

CHARLES HENRY GRAY was born October 12, 1869 and died--

EDGAR THOMAS GRAY was born December 23, 1872. He married Ida Gray Atkins. She was born July 28, 1870. The children: Earsie Mae Gray was born May 20, 1896. She married Martin Luther Edwards on February 8, 1922. The children: Ida Mae--born May 21, 1923 and married William F. McDaniel on October 10, 1944. Ruby Elizabeth--born February 2, 1926 and married Nelson Stuart Daubenmeyer on March 6, 1946. Herbert Jackson--born October 10, 1928 and married Betty Lou Snyder on March 1, 1946. Peggy Gray--born March 30, 1931, and died April 30, 1931.

Roy Lee Gray was born January 1, 1900. He married Annie Moore.

Clinton Samuel Gray was born August 3, 1903. He married Thelma Snow. Four children: Naomi--born June 16, 1923. She married Norman Tucker on June 21, 1941. One child: Brenda Gray--born October 11, 1942. Williard Clinton Gray was born December 28, 1928, and died May 6, 1931.

Richard Beeson Gray was born March 9, 1932, and married Betty Joan Campbell on January 24, 1953. One child: Carroll Wayne--born January 23, 1954. William Lea Gray was born January 10, 1936.

Among my childhood memories the visits to Uncle Edgar's home are still quite vivid: the times of fishing in the creek below the hillside of dark pines, the long rambles in the woods of oak and hickory, the apple orchards in summer, and better yet, in autumn, and the careless laughter and talk with the sons and daughter in his family do not seem forty years away.

But the burial places of memory give us their dead.





SARAH GRAY was born December 10, 1874, and died December 18, 1919. She was married to Rufus M. Whitt on November 10, 1904. Rufus M. Whitt died on December 18, 1942. Five children: Ada Irene Whitt was born January 22, 1906. She married Howard Lane on October 2, 1926. Two children: Marion Elizabeth--born November 30, 1923. Lawrence Gray--born January 22, 1931. Bascom Whitt. He married Mary Orleva Hester on October 20, 1934. Two children: Margaret Evangeline--born April 2, 1937. Sarah Lee--born November 1, 1938. Bertie Whitt married Merle Jordon of Kentucky on September 22, 1944. Two children: Doris Alberta--born October 19, 1945. Barba Irene--born December 23, 1947. Rufus Whitt married Elizabeth Shepherd in 1932. They live in Virginia.

ADA GRAY was born May 20, 1878, and died in 1895.

#### POSTWORD

I have tried to copy the records sent me correctly. There are mistakes--not many, I hope. Sometimes the data were conflicting; that is, where the dates mentioned appeared in more than one paper. In such cases, I used my best judgment. You can make correction on the blank pages, as well as add any new information that may come to you.

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## GOOD MEN

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I have known many men who were wise and good:  
They loved the place and time of prayer and song;  
And if a neighbor were weak, and they were strong,  
They gladly shared his burdens as they could.  
Their faith was not in signs of bronze, or wood,  
Nor in the bands and ribbons of men in long  
Attire, but in the mighty God who hates the wrong,  
And seeks through His son a kindly brotherhood.

In peace they pruned the tree and plowed the field,  
And knew the hope that lives in ripening ears,  
And praised the Giver for each shock and bough:  
In war they broke the boasting tyrant's shield  
Of ship and gun and shell, and mocked his sneers,  
And left their sons the soil, the seed, the plow!

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